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Subject: - The Comission's meeting on NERPAP - 21.05.2015

A meeting held by the Commission on 21/05/2015 at 11.00 AM in Room no 601, Nirvachan Sadan, New Delhi to discuss "Issues and Challenges in Linking Aadhaar with ER Data in UIDAI and NPR States".

- The followings were also present during the meeting: 2.
 - Sh. Vijay S. Madan, DG,UIDAI, i.
 - Sh. S.K.Chakraborti, Addl.RGCR, RGI, ii.
 - Prof. Rajat Moona, DG,C-DAC iii.
 - Sh. N.K. Mehta, ED(CA), BSNL iv.
 - Smt. Rama Nangpal, DDG,NIC v.
 - Sh. Dinesh Tyagi, CEO, CSC vi.
- From the Commission's side, DEC (VZ), DEC (ST), DEC (US), Dir(IT) and Secy(NNB) attended the meeting. Besides, CEOs of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha, Tamilnadu and West Bengal also participated in the meeting.
- Agenda of the meeting was as under:
 - 1. Issues related to UIDAI
 - a) Agreement an agreement has been signed between UIDAI and Election Commission. That agreement has been submitted on file, in which LA(SKM) has pointed out that an agreement cannot be entered in to between two offices working under President of India. He has suggested that maximum, an MOU can be signed between two such offices.
 - b) MOU with CSC- as informed by CSC, UIDAI is insisting that the Commission has to sign a separate MOU with CSC for purpose of authentication of Adhaar data.
 - c) Methodology to share the data UIDAI has not supplied fully the web API which allows access to Adhaar data base through NVSP portal. This application is required for EROs to carry out seeding of Adhaar number in electoral data base.
 - d) Biometrics for overseas Indian electors the issue was discussed on 19.05.2015 in the meeting of the Committee on e-voting. As Adhaar is not issued to the overseas Indian electors, their biometrics have to be collected separately. It is for discussion whether UIDAI can take up the task of collection of biometrics of overseas Indian electors.

2. Issues related with RGI -

- a) Poor enrolment in NPR States.
- b) Insufficient manpower and equipments to agencies engaged by RGI.
- c) Non-issue of BME receipts and delay in distribution of Adhaar due to incomplete address.
- e) Delay in supply of data to CEOs
- 3. Issues related to BSNL
 - a) Poor network in North Eastern States.

- b) ECI NET a proposal for development of ECI NET on pattern of NIC NET/RAILTEL is under consideration. It is for discussion as to how BSNL can assist in development of ECI NET.
- 5. DEC(US) made a brief presentation on related concerns with UIDAI, RGI, BSNL and C-DAC as per the above agenda.
- 6. The main points of discussion were as follows:
 - As regards Web API, DG UIDAI and DG C-DAC indicated that there is considerable progress in the development of this Web API for DSDV services. This is being closely monitored and tested by teams from C-DAC and UIDAI. It was mentioned that it's a matter of 3 to 4 days within which this service will be made available to EROs for seeding purpose.

• For AUA and KUA agreement, LA(SKM) intimated that he would discuss this matter separately with DG UIDAI and sort it out.

Regarding MOU with CSC, it was mentioned that the issue would be seen
again in the light of signing of AUA with UIDAI. However ECI and CSC could
draft MoU which may cover other aspects as well to cover many services
envisaged by ECI in providing services to the Citizen of India.

• As regards issues relating to RGI, the RGI representative mentioned that except for Meghalaya and Assam where enrolment has just started few months before, other NPR states and UTs are having no issues as such. He informed that infact RGI has already provided RGI Data base with Aadhaar number, enrolment number and TIN number to States who requested for number, enrolment number and West Bengal confirmed that they have received the data from RGI.

• CEO, West Bengal indicated that although as intimated by RGI, Aadhaar coverage for the State is above 80 % while on the basis of data collected by BLOs through house to house visits it comes around 30%. It appears that letters are stuck in Post offices either because of incomplete addresses or for some other reasons.

CEO, West Bengal requested to RGI to provide enumeration block number attached to the records in data base, which would help them to get the part wise data (since parts are almost matching with the enumeration blocks) and it would be easier to manage collection, feeding and seeding of and it would be respective BLOs and EROs. Sh. Chakraborti informed Aadhaar number by respective BLOs and EROs. Sh. Chakraborti informed that TIN number already provided with the records contain enumeration block numbers. He further assured that all issues would be looked into and sorted out as soon as the same are brought to notice of RGI by the concerned CEOs.

• EC(J) directed the CEOs to approach RGI immediately in case they have any

 DDG, BSNL indicated that he would look into network issues in North Eastern States and also provide necessary support for routine maintenance. He mentioned that the power problem in North Eastern States is the major reason for communication failure. On the mention of Optical Fiber Project of DoT by DG C-DAC, he indicated that the project is still under process and being a long term project may not help NERPAP.

• CEO, Arunachal Pradesh pointed that that the network connectivity within the state is very poor and BSNL should look into that. He expected RGI to

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ক্রিন্ডানাস্থল প্রতিবাদী /Section Officer
ক্রেন্ডানাস্থল প্রতিবাদী
ক্রেন্ডানাস্থল বাস্ত্র বিশ্বনী 110001
Asnoka Road, N. Delhi-110001

provide the registration data so that it could be used by BLOs during door to door survey. Sh. Chakraborti agreed to this request. He mentioned that all other CEOs may also send their request directly to RGI and the data would be made available though concerned CPSUs.

CEO, Meghalaya mentioned that the request to RGI has been already sent for the data. The registration for Aadhaar was started in Shillong and because of NGOs objections there was not much of the progress. But since the launch of NERPAP, people wish to get registered for Aadhaar so that they could submit the aadhaar number to Election office. Now the progress has been seen not only in and around Shillong but also all over the state including rural areas.

• CEC pointed out that various representations/complaints have been received in the Commission suspecting that a number of deletions of names of voters from the Electoral Rolls by the BLOs may take on the basis of non-furnishing of Aadhaar number by the voters. It has also been brought to notice of the Commission that SMSs are being sent that EPIC cards will no longer be needed at the time of voting and that the Aadhaar database may be misused. CEC directed that though necessary instructions have already been issued by the Commission, to avoid confusion, more detailed and clear instructions should go to CEOs that furnishing of Aadhaar by an elector is not mandatory but it is optional. Non furnishing of Aadhaar number will not be a ground for rejection of application for new enrolment / deletion of an existing name from the Electoral roll. The citizens should be sensitized that the electors have been requested to give this information in their own interest and to ensure defect free Electoral Roll, and for incorporation of correct data of electors in the rolls to avoid duplicity and fake

entries in the Electoral Rolls.

As regards putting adequate safeguards to secure Adhaar database, CEC further directed to send instructions to the CEOs to ensure that Aadhaar database is not misused under any condition. He asked to inform them that collection of Aadhaar number is only for the purpose of authentication of details of electors and confidentiality and security of data must be ensured during the process of feeding and seeding. Aadhaar number of an elector shall not be displayed / reflected in electoral roll or EPIC or voter slips or shown in digitized form on website for public scrutiny or other document of the Commission, shareable with public or put in public domain.

Andrew Olympia

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

Submitted

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राज्य आवास/RAJANASAFMAL अनुसाम अधिकारी/Section Officer आफ्टा निर्देश आध्योग Election Commission of India अर्थान्द दिल्ली-110000 Ashoka Rdad, N. Delhi-110000 245/15

The Commission may like to peruse.

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biometric enrolment under NPR, shall be shared with the CEOs of the States of Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

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विचारावीन पन पिनांड 7 मी 2015, CEO, भीपाल

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